(d) if not, by when pilot projects are supposed to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIA. RAJA): (a) Government of Rajasthan has identified the districts of Jaipur, Alwar, Sikar and Barmer for implementation of Sector Reform project which *inter-alia* envisages to institutionalise community based O&M and WQM & S in Rural Water Supply sector.

(b) to (d) Administrative sanction in respect of the pilot projects of Jaipur, Alwar and Sikar has been issued. The State Government is at this stage carrying out the preliminary formalities, which are necessary before the actual commencement of the project.

NDMW in Rajasthan

4852. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total plan amount spent on construction of drinking water projects so far by National Drinking Water Mission in different parts of Rajasthan;

(b) the future plan of NDWM to cover the remote areas of the State of Rajasthan;

(c) whether there is any target fixed for supply of safe drinking water to all the villages in the State of Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) As per the latest expenditure report furnished by the State Government of Rajasthan till January, 2000, an amount of Rs. 1066.36 crore was spent under the State sector Minimum Needs Programme for implementing rural water supply schemes in Rajasthan since VII Plan. The State Government also incurred an expenditure of Rs. 999.87 crore under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) during the same period.

(b) to (d) The National Agenda for Governance of the Government, *inter-alia*, envisages to provide access to drinking water facilities to all rural habitations in five years time. As Drinking Water Supply is a State subject, and

the programmes to provide drinking water facilities are implemented by the State Governments. The state Government of Rajasthan was requested to prepare an action plan to provide drinking water facilities to all rural habitations in five years time. The State Government has prepared an action plan accordingly and it could be implemented successfully subject to availability of funds.

Utilisation of funds meant for portable water

†4853. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign assistance meant for portable water projects is not being fully utilised;

(b) if so, the foreign assistance received during the last three years and out of this to what extent it has been utilised; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government for better utilisation of these funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Revival of ponds and meadows in the rural areas

†4854. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rural development work has stopped;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the ponds and meadows of the villages are deteriorating and rural gardens have been encroached;

(c) if so, the number of rural ponds, meadows and gardens in the year 1980, togetherwith the number thereof as at present; and

(d) the action being taken by Government to revive them?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Deterioration of ponds and meadows of the villages or encroachment of rural gardens has not come to the notice of the Government.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.